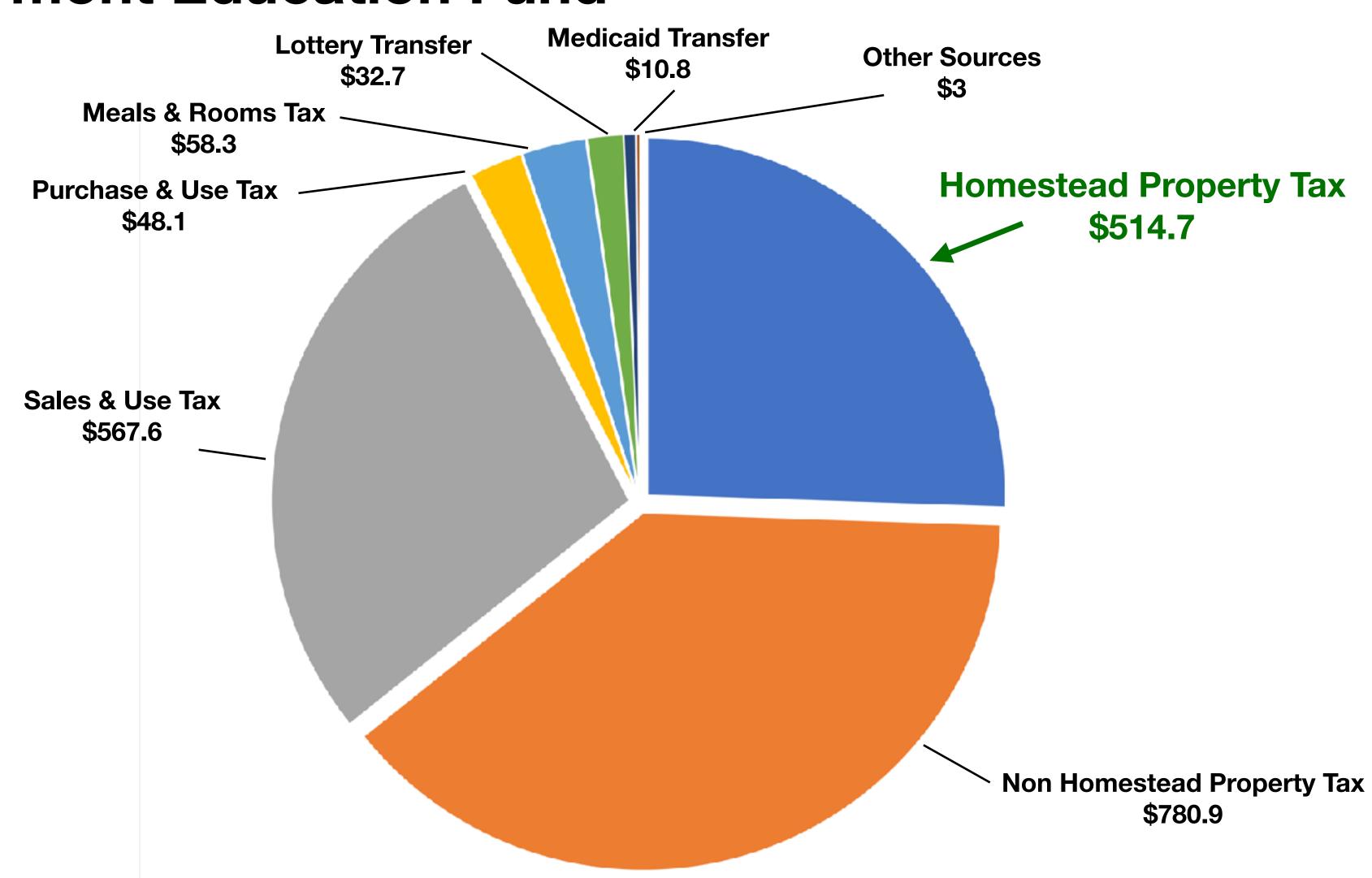


# Vermont's Tuitioning System

Financing



#### The Vermont Education Fund





# **The Vermont Education Property Tax**

Local districts determine spending

State required to fund education



# **The Vermont Education Property Tax**

All Voter Approved Budgets

- + Other Obligations (PCBs, School Lunch, etc.)
- Non Property Tax Revenue
- = Amount To Be Raised By Property Taxes



# **The Vermont Education Property Tax**

Property Tax Rate = Education Spending ÷ Number of pupils



# The Vermont Education Property Tax

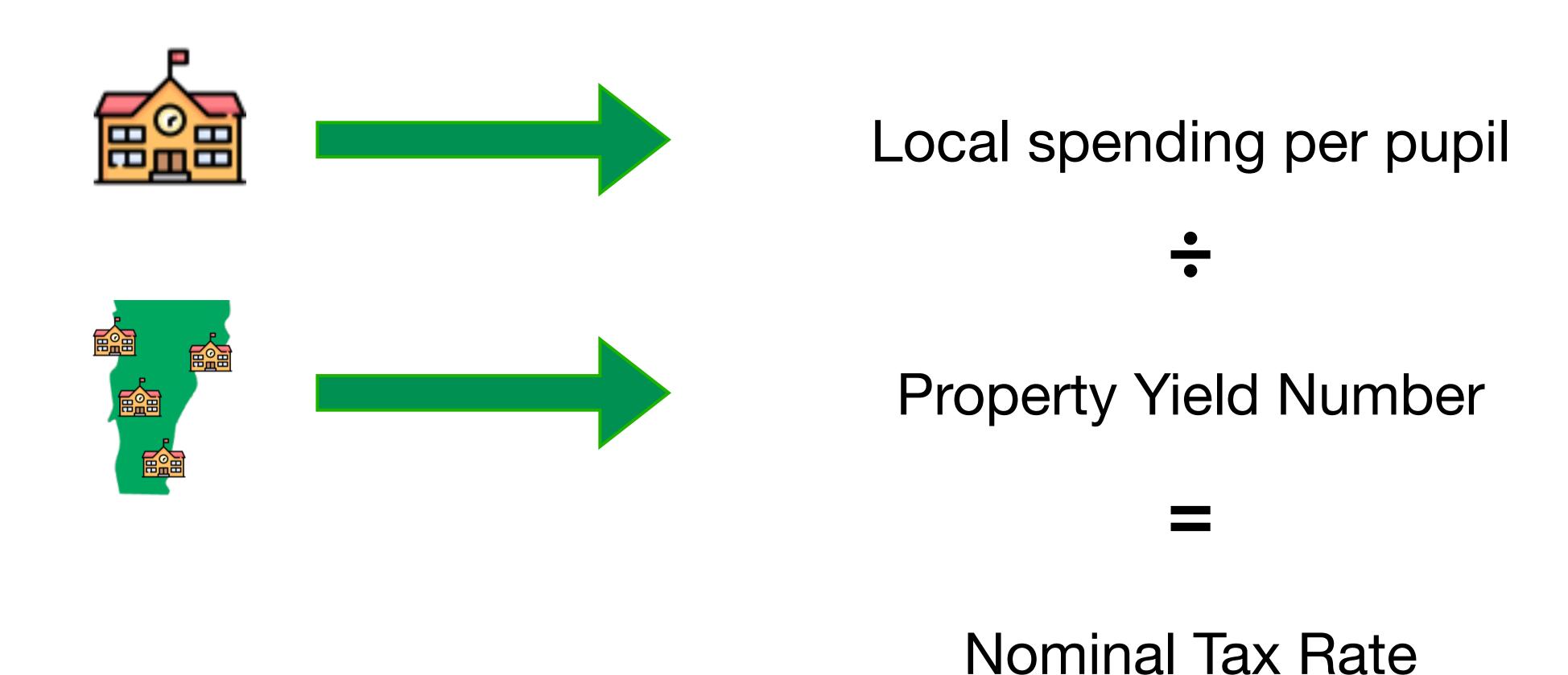
# **Property Yield**

The amount of per pupil spending that a \$1.00 tax rate will generate

Local per pupil spending : Property Yield Number = Nominal Tax Rate



# The Vermont Education Property Tax

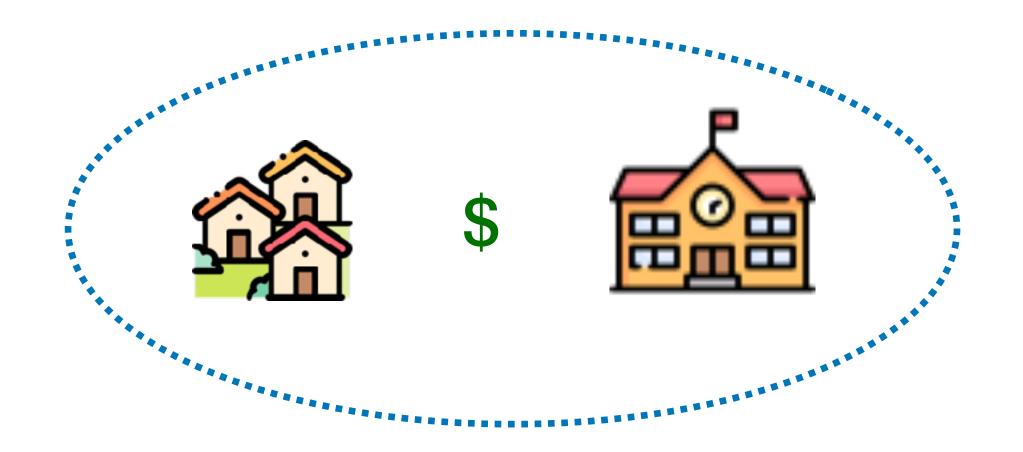






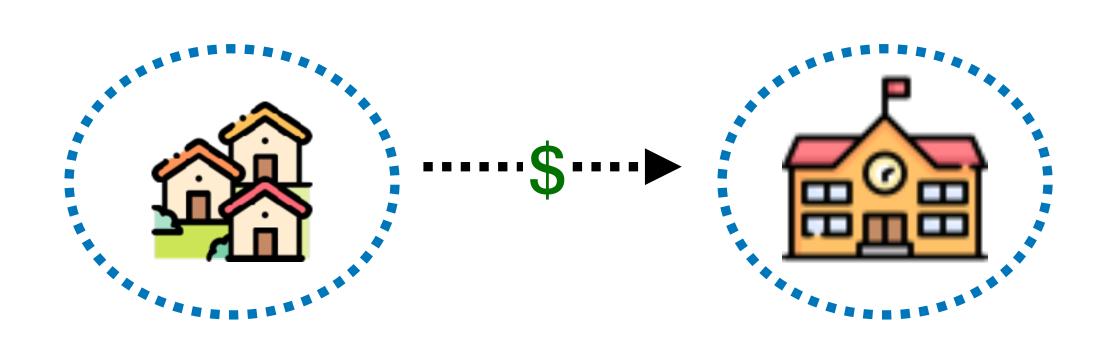
# **Local School Budgets**

#### **Operating Town**



**Expenditure Budget** 

#### **Tuitioning Town**



**Expenditure Budget** 



**Tuition Costs** 



# **Tuitioning Costs**

Public School in VT	Independent School in VT
The full tuition charged	Average announced tuition

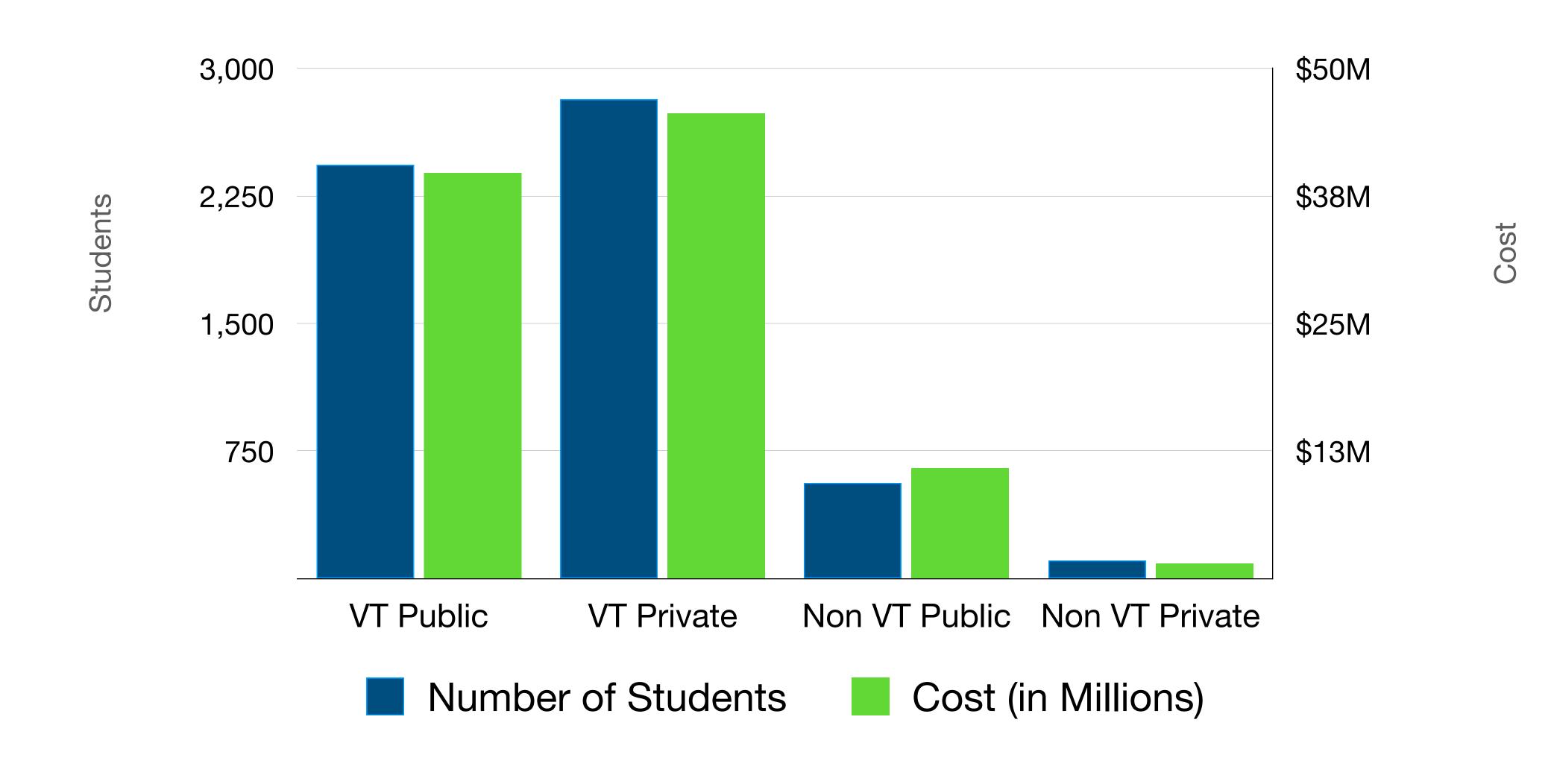


# **Tuitioning Costs 2022-23**

Average Announced Tuition K-6	\$16,020
Average Announced Tuition 7-12	\$17,278
Meets or 'Substantially Complies with' Education Quality Standards	\$18,500 (Sharon Academy)
State Approved Public School via Designation	\$20,963 (Thetford Academy)
Operates a Career and Tech Center	\$20,827 (Lyndon), \$20,855 (St. Johnsbury)
Electorate votes to approve a different amount	\$19,200 (Burr & Burton)



# **Tuitioning Costs**







# **Tuitioning Costs**



One of Vermont's independent schools is hiking its tuition. Could that spell trouble for local public schools?

By Peter D'Auria Apr 21 2022

"I'm very concerned that this could result in significantly impacting our elementary school programming in a negative way," Jamie Kinnarney, the superintendent of the White River Valley Supervisory Union, told state officials last fall in an email obtained through a public records request.

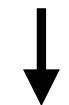




# The Cost of Tuitioning

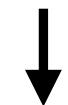
Tuitioning Town





100 Students \$1.5 million





VT Public School

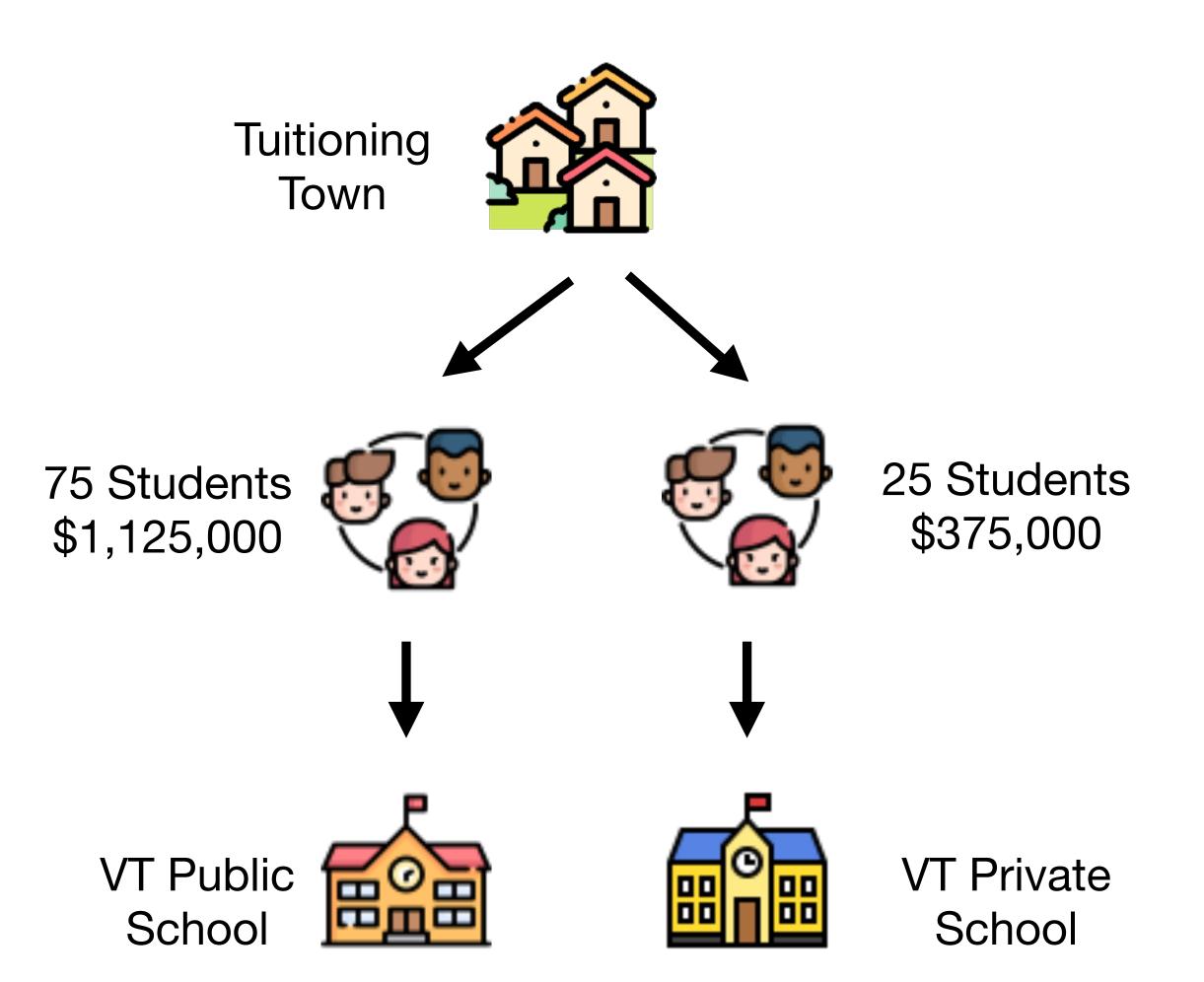


Public School		
Local Students	150	
Tutioned Students	100	
Total Students	250	
Total Budget	\$3,750,000	
Per Pupil Spending	\$15,000	





# The Cost of Tuitioning



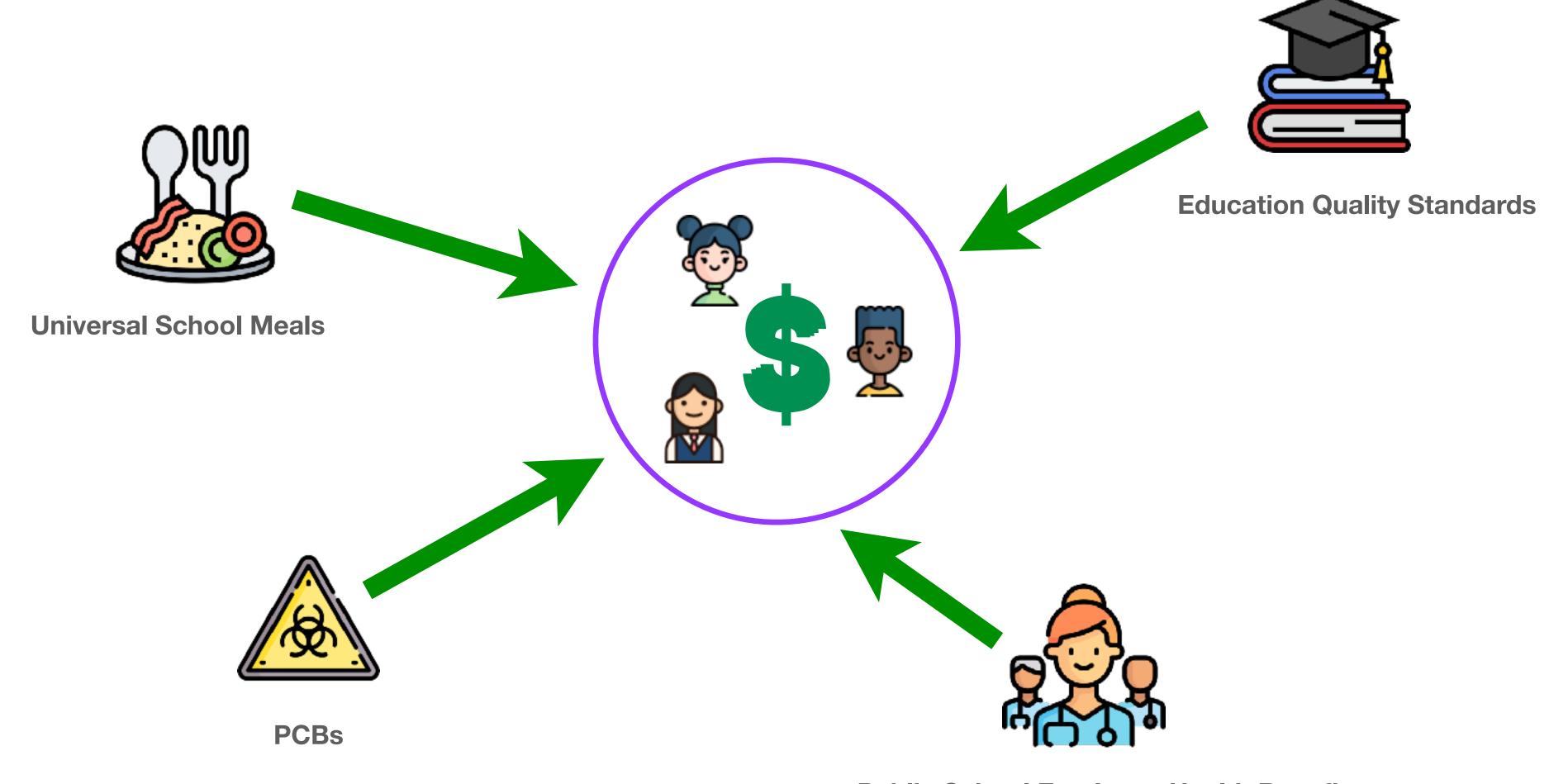
Public School		
Local Students	150	
Tutioned Students	75	
Total Students	225	
Total Budget	\$3,750,000	
Per Pupil Spending	\$16,667	







# The Cost of Tuitioning



**Public School Employee Health Benefits** 



# **Tuitioning and Tax Rate Pressures**



# Bennington Banner

March 6, 2018

"what we're going to do is accept the state average tuition for Winhall students this year. We have never done this before, and we can never do it again."

Seth Bongartz
President B&B Board of Trustees



# **Tuitioning and Student Weighting**

Homestead Tax Rates = Net Education Spending ÷ Equalized Pupils

students in poverty
students who are English language learners
students in secondary grades
students in small or rural schools





# **Tuitioning and Student Weighting**

**Public School Tuition Rate** 

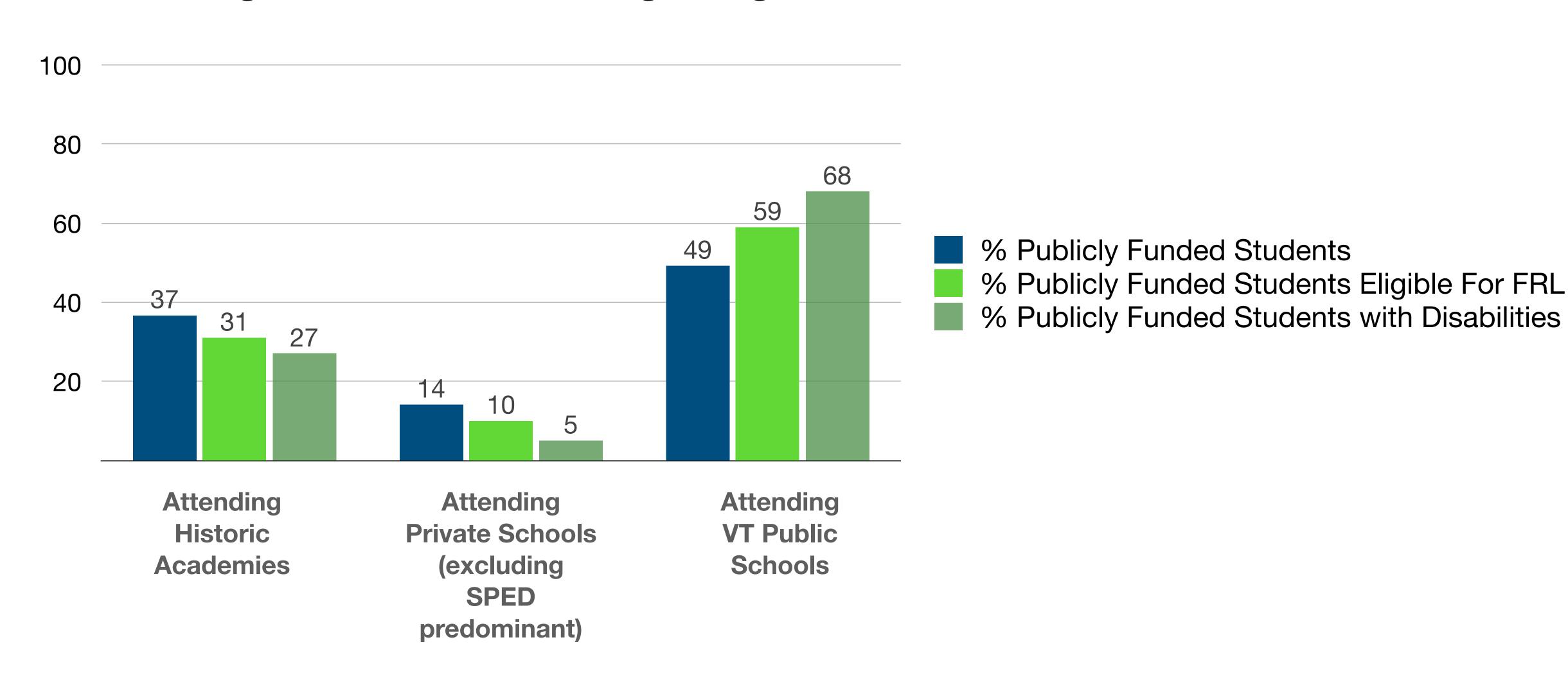
**Private School Tuition Rate** 

Net Ed Spending per Equalized Pupil

State Average or Higher Amount

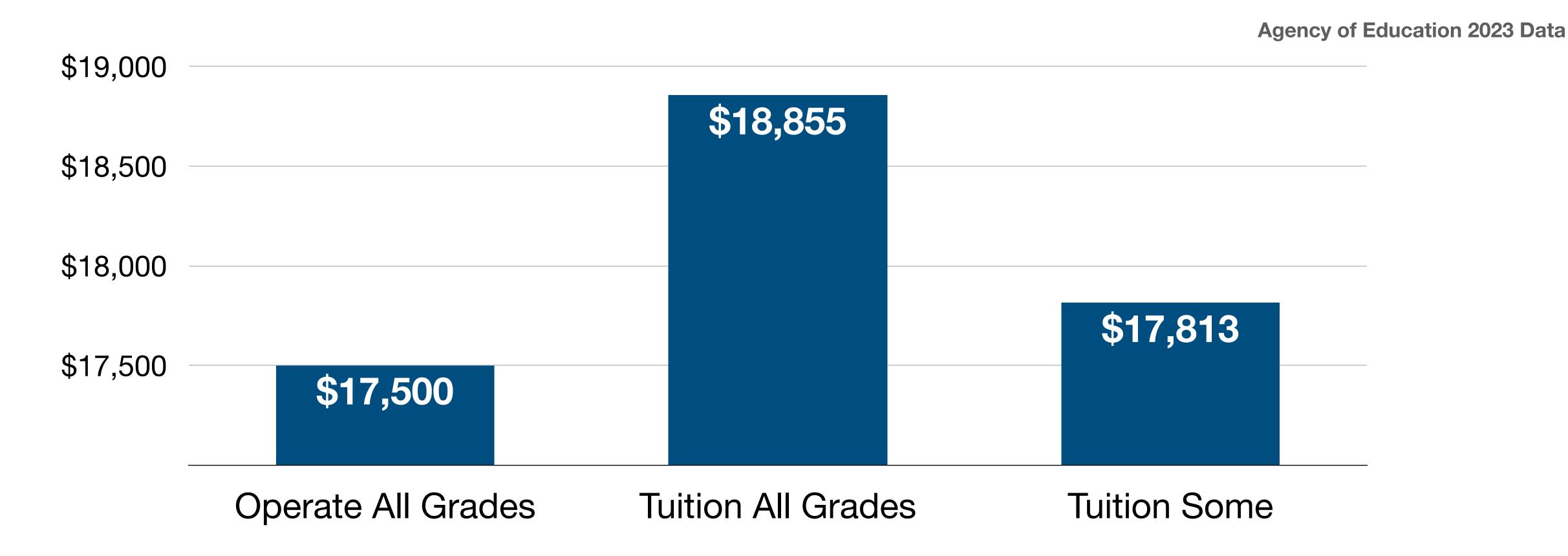


# **Tuitioning and Student Weighting**





# Tuitioning and Education Spending Per Equalized Pupil

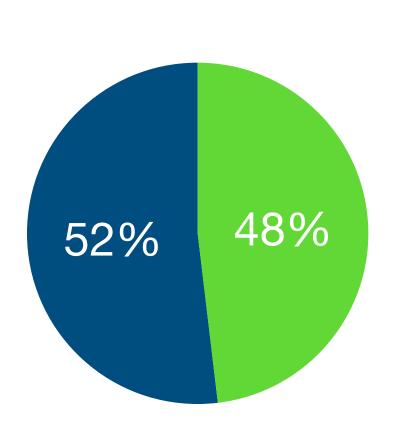




# **Tuitioning and Per Pupil Costs**







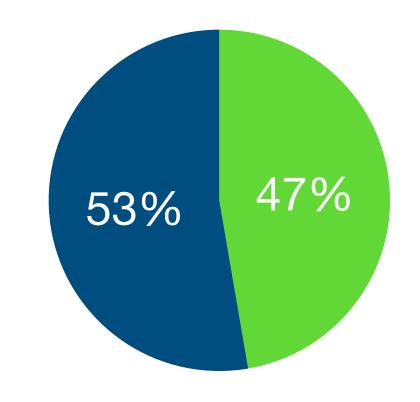


Elementary

\$16,020

Secondary

\$17,278



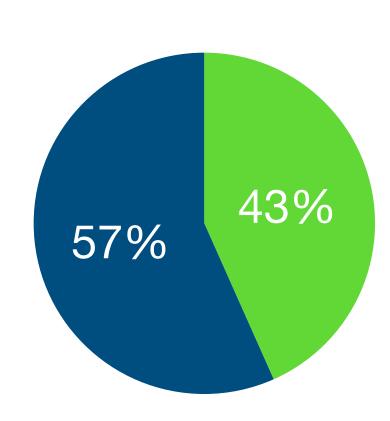
#### Danville

**Elementary** 

\$16,150

Secondary

\$18,000



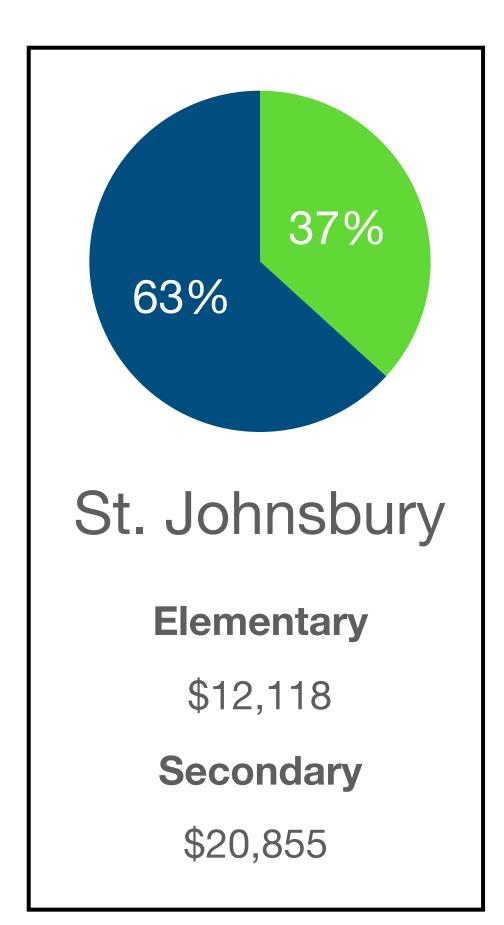
#### Orleans

**Elementary** 

\$13,000

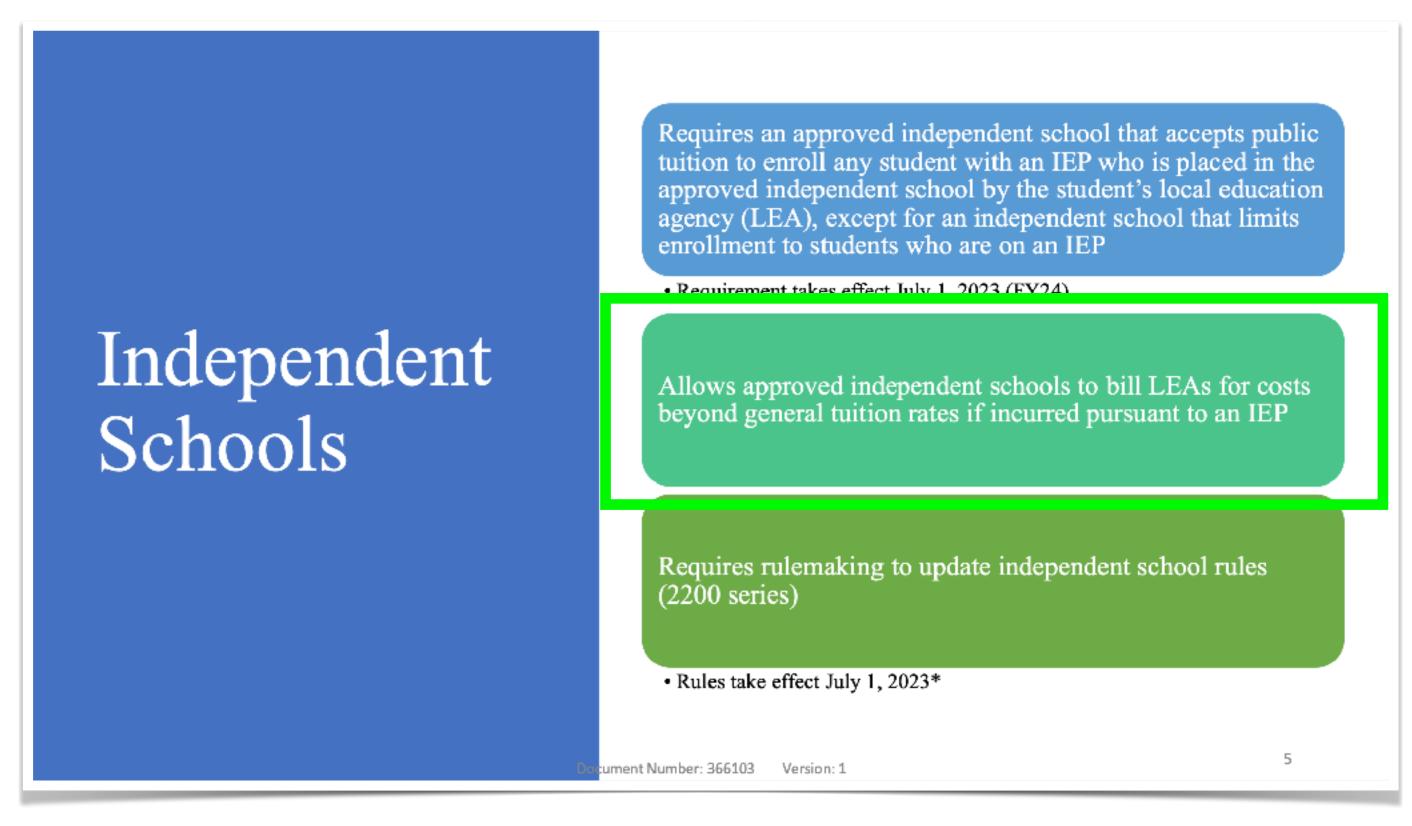
Secondary

\$17,000





# **Tuitioning and Special Education Funding**



Beth St. James, Legislative Counsel - from Act 173 overview provided to House Education Committee on January 10, 2023



# **Tuitioning and Special Education Funding**

# Manchester Journal

**December 1, 2020** 

"Act 173 calls on us to manage for receiving SPED funding for all of our PK-12 students under one methodology that applies to public schools," the board said. "However, roughly one-third of our students attend independent schools which are not subject to the same rules for managing SPED costs. Therefore, we are concerned that SPED expenditures for our 9-12 students will remain the same – putting excessive budget pressures on our PK-8 system."



# Tuitioning and Excess Spending Threshold

# **Excess Spending Threshold**

- 121% of the statewide average education spending per equalized pupil, increased by inflation
- School districts are double taxed on the amount above this threshold



# **Tuitioning and Excess Spending Threshold**



Under Act 46's spending caps, school boards find building budgets frustrating

By **Tiffany Danitz Pache** Nov 15 2015

"each \$800 increase in tuition per high school student will result in a \$510 decrease in what can be spent at the K-8 level"



# Tuitioning and Excess Spending Threshold

- Tuition paid by a district that does not operate a school and pays tuition for all resident students in kindergarten through grade 12, except in a district in which the electorate has authorized payment of an amount higher than the statutory rate pursuant to subsection 823(b) or 824(c) of this title.
- Excess spending threshold currently suspended during the implementation of new pupil weights





# Thank You



reference material